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Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products January 2013

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary January steel imports were **\$2.5 billion** (**2.3 million** metric tons) compared to the preliminary December totals of \$2.1 billion (2.1 million metric tons).

The January change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected increases primarily in oil country goods and hot dipped sheets and strips galvanized and decreases primarily in blooms, billets and slabs. Increases occurred primarily with Korea and Canada. Decreases occurred primarily with Russia and Australia.

The year to date final statistics through December 2012 showed steel imports of 30.4 million metric tons compared with 25.9 million metric tons through December 2011. The largest commodity increases occurred primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs and oil country goods. The largest country increases occurred primarily with Russia, Brazil, and Korea. Decreases occurred primarily with Australia.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details, visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at www.census.gov/trade. On the website, you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is March 26, 2013.